

NATIONAL PLANNING HUB

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Cover

- Overview of the Planning Hub
- Where we are now
- Where we are going next ... next steps...



What is the Hub?

Here-and-Now



NPH

- Partnership approach
- Small team – drawing on wider talents and resources
- Range of backgrounds and experience
- Provide additional resources to planning authorities
- Diagnostic and innovative

Origins

- Investing in Planning consultation
- **PfG 2024/5:** *“Establish Scotland’s first Planning Hub to build capacity and resilience, and to improve consistency and efficiency in decision-making. The Hub’s initial priority will be to help planning authorities make quicker decisions on hydrogen planning applications, with a plan to support wider developments including good quality homes and onshore wind.”*
- National Planning Improvement Champion
- Initial Hub (Hydrogen) evolves to NPH



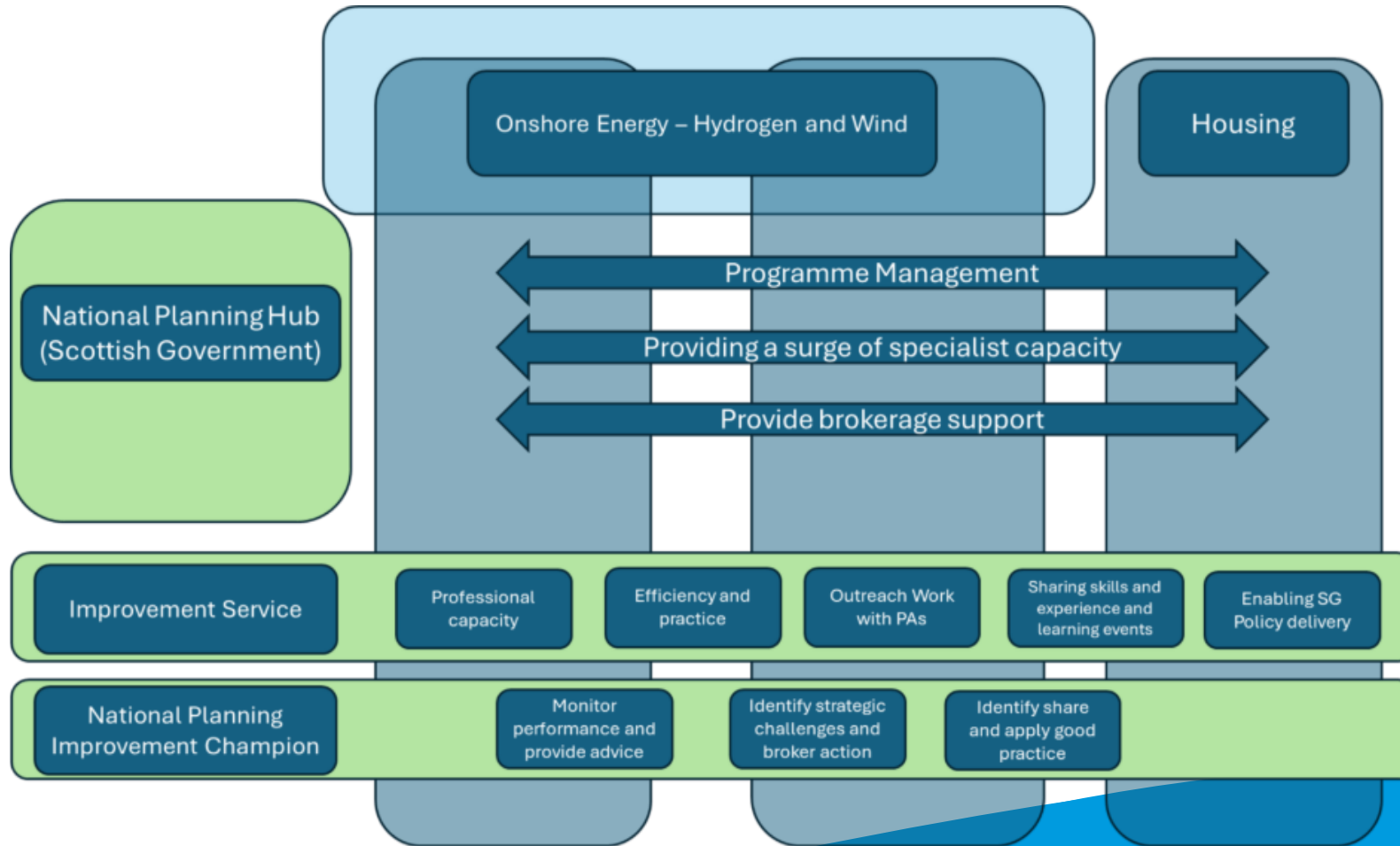
NPH

- Building on initial Planning Hub Hydrogen programme
- Led by Scottish Government, working in partnership with the Improvement Service (NPIC)
- Top priority to provide planning authorities with direct resource support (staff, specialist expertise etc.)
- Also wrap around support for the wider planning system.

Operating model

Planning & Architecture

Planning
Architecture &
Regeneration



What we're doing now

- Conversations with Planning Authorities on their support needs
- Shaping the 'Ask' and assessing the requirement
- Agreed and now delivering the IS programme

Examples of 'first phase' surge capacity support

- Funding for 3 staff to deliver MCA for Housing and Freeport
- Recruitment and funding of Principal Planner to progress LDP
- Resources to boost work on contaminated land to accelerate development delivery
- Study to provide new modelling data on flooding to support land development
- Funding to provide additional **specialist expertise to support strategically important energy infrastructure**

Examples of Hydrogen support

- Funding to boost capacity to support Hydrogen planning development
- Funding of technical assessments to support planning application
- Sharing of practice and training e.g. with HSE and planning authorities
- Tools and publications to support Hydrogen investment and development in the planning system
- Funding to support community capacity building and knowledge relating to renewables development

Next steps

- Move to 'second phase' ... more to do...
- Further engagement with planning authorities, including check-in with those with HAR2 applications
- Further engagement with the industry by SG and NPIC
- Delivering Hydrogen specific tools and support
- Delivery of programme to end of financial year 25/26

Thank you!
Tapadh leat!